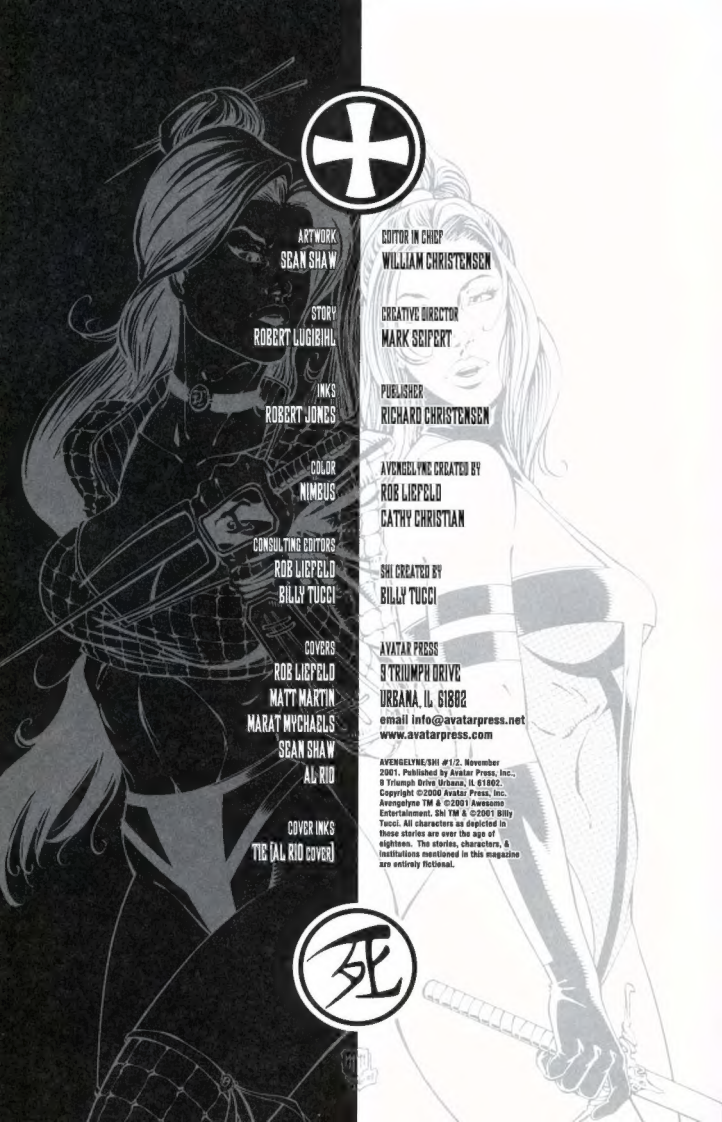
ONE HALF
US $3.95
AL RIO
AVENGELYNE
SHE
AL RIO
NIMBUS
LIMITED
TO 3000
AVATAR

AVENGELYNE
SHI
AVATAR
LIEFELD
ONE HALF
US $3.95
LIEFELD
+
NIMBUS
LIMITED
TO 3000



ARTWORK
SEAN SHAW

STORY
ROBERT LUGIBIHL

INKS
ROBERT JONES

COLOR
NIMBUS

CONSULTING EDITORS
ROB LIEFELD
BILLY TUCCI

COVERS
ROB LIEFELD
MATT MARTIN
MARAT MYCHAELS
SEAN SHAW
AL RIO

COVER INKS
TIE (AL RIO COVER)

EDITOR IN CHIEF
WILLIAM CHRISTENSEN

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
MARK SEIFERT

PUBLISHER
RICHARD CHRISTENSEN

AVENGELYNE CREATED BY
ROB LIEFELD
CATHY CHRISTIAN

SHI CREATED BY
BILLY TUCCI

AVATAR PRESS
9 TRIUMPH DRIVE
URBANA, IL 61802
email info@avatarpress.net
www.avatarpress.com

AVENGELYNE/SHI #1/2. November 2001. Published by Avatar Press, Inc., 9 Triumph Drive Urbana, IL 61802.

Copyright ©2000 Avatar Press, Inc. Avengelyne TM & ©2001 Awesome Entertainment. Shi TM & ©2001 Billy Tucci. All characters as depicted in these stories are over the age of eighteen. The stories, characters, & institutions mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional.

JAPAN, 1639.
SHE WAS ONCE KNOWN AS YURI ISHIKAWA, AND SHE HAS SEEN MORE TRAGEDY AND DEATH IN HER YOUNG LIFE THAN MOST PEOPLE TWICE HER AGE.
FROM AGE TEN TO SIXTEEN SHE TRAINED UNDER THE GREAT MIYAMOTO MUSASHI AND LATER FOUGHT TO END THE PERSECUTION OF HER FELLOW CHRISTIANS...
...PERSECUTION THAT BEGAN WITH AN EDICT ISSUED BY THE SHOGUN IEYASU MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS AGO AND WHICH CONTINUES TO THIS DAY.
ONE OF A HANDFUL OF SURVIVORS OF THE DOOMED SHIMABARA REVOLT, SHE HAS SWORN TO BRING THE ASHES OF A CHRISTIAN MARTYR TO ROME WHERE THEY ARE TO BE BLESSED...
...AND UNTIL SHE HAS FULFILLED THIS HOLY TASK, YURI ISHIKAWA HAS ABANDONED HER GIVEN NAME TO BECOME THE LIVING GHOST KNOWN ONLY AS SHI.

...AND MORE BLOOD!
SHING!
SWSSHH!
AHHHN!
FWUMP!
KRSHRAK'T!

M-MY FATHER'S SWORD...
YOUR BLADE WAS WEAK, KIRISHTAN, JUST LIKE YOUR FEEBLE GOD.
IT IS OVER. YOU ARE ALONE, UNARMED, AND NO MATCH FOR ONE SUCH AS I.
KLANG!
WHO?!
I AM AVENGELYNE, A MEMBER OF JEHOVAH'S WARHOST. YOU ARE SAVED, YURI ISHIKAWA...
AND YOU, SENZO GESSHIN, ARE DAMNED.
TENSHI.

YES, SENZO WAS DAMNED THE MOMENT HE PERFORMED THE RITUAL OF SUMMONING...
...AND INVITED ME -- THE DEMON LORD AKUMA...
...TO POSSESS HIM!
I AM GOING TO ENJOY FEASTING ON THE FLESH OF AN ANGEL.
BLASPHEMER!
YURI, NO!
THWAK!

SHNNG!
LEAVE HER!
I HAVE SLAIN HUNDREDS OF YOUR MASTER'S FOLLOWERS OVER THE YEARS, TENSHI. WHY INTERFERE ON BEHALF OF THIS ONE?
FWAP!
FOR REASONS THAT YOU COULD NEVER HOPE TO UNDERSTAND, DEMON...
HNNNG!
SUFFICE TO SAY THAT YOUR DEPREDATIONS END HERE AND NOW.
YOUR FINAL JUDGMENT IS AT HAND!

UNFF!
THWACK!
FEATHERED BITCH!
AFTER I CARVE OUT YOUR HEART AND EAT IT, I'M GOING TO DEFILE YOUR CORPSE IN WAYS THAT--
FAP!
WHA...?
YOU DESTROYED MY FATHER'S SWORD, AKUMA...
THAP!
...AND SINCE THIS NAGINATA OF YOURS IS SUCH A FINE WEAPON...

SHUNK!
YEEEARRRGH!
I THINK I'LL KEEP IT!
THIS ISN'T OVER. I WILL RETURN ONE DAY...
IF IT TAKES A THOUSAND YEARS, I WILL HAVE MY REVENGE UPON YOU BOTH.
HAD AKUMA DIED BY MY RIGHTEOUS BLADE, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN DESTROYED FOREVER.
AS IT IS, HE HAS BEEN RETURNED TO THE NETHER REALM FROM WHENCE HE CAME.
...BUT I FEAR THAT IF HE IS EVER AGAIN SUMMONED INTO THIS WORLD, HE WILL NOT REST UNTIL HE HAS MADE GOOD ON HIS THREAT.

YOUR CROSS NOW BINDS US. IF YOU ARE EVER IN GRAVE DANGER, YOU HAVE BUT TO PRAY UPON IT AND I WILL COME TO YOU.
THANK YOU, AWAREMI NO TENSHI... MY ANGEL OF MERCY.
I OWE YOU MY LIFE.
YOUR FAITH IS THANKS ENOUGH.
FAREWELL, YURI ISHIKAWA. UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN...
...ON EARTH OR IN HEAVEN
SHE WAS ONCE KNOWN AS YURI ISHIKAWA. BUT SHE HAS LOST HER FAMILY, HER FRIENDS... EVEN HER VERY NAME.
YET DESPITE ALL OF THE TRAGEDY AND DEATH THAT HAS FILLED HER YOUNG LIFE, THE WOMAN KNOWN ONLY AS SHI HAS NEVER LOST HER FAITH.
TO BE CONTINUED IN AVENGELYNE/ SHI #1...

AVENGELYNE
SHI
AVATAR
FACE OFF
US $5.95
ISSUE ONE

AVENGELYNE SHI
SHAW
AVATAR

AVENGELYNE
SHI
ISSUE 1
MARTIN
US $3.50
AVATAR

ARTWORK
KARL WALLER

STORY
ROBERT LOUGHRIDGE

COLOR
IMAGUS

CONSULTING EDITORS
ROB LIEFELD
BILLY TUCCI

COVERS
DAVID FINCH
BILLY TUCCI
MATT MARTIN
MATT HALEY
KARL WALLER
SEAN SHAW
RICK LYON
AL RIO

COVER INKS
TIE [AL RIO COVER]
MATT MARTIN [FINCH COVER]
ROBERT JONES [HALEY COVER]

EDITOR IN CHIEF
WILLIAM CHRISTENSEN

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
MARK SEIFERT

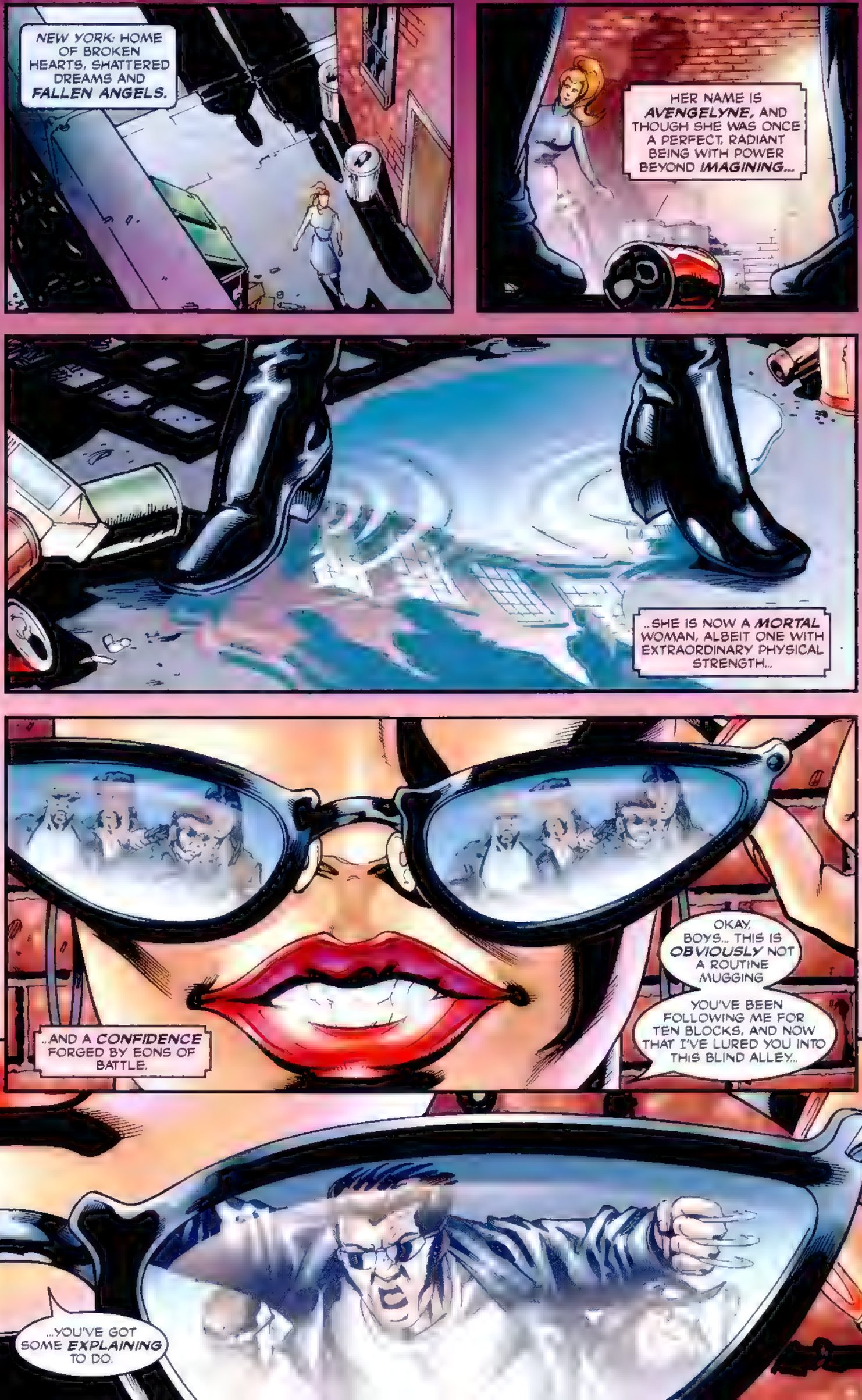
PUBLISHER
RICHARD CHRISTENSEN

AVENGELYNE CREATED BY
ROB LIEFELD
CATHY CHRISTIAN

SHI CREATED BY
BILLY TUCCI

AVATAR PRESS
9 TRIUMPH DRIVE
URBANA, IL 61802
email info@avatarpress.net
www.avatarpress.com

AVENGELYNE SHI #1. November 2001. Published by Avatar Press, Inc., 9 Triumph Drive Urbana, IL 61802. Copyright © 2001 Avatar Press, Inc. Avengelyne TM & © 2001 Awesome Entertainment. Shi TM & © 2001 Billy Tucci. All other characters TM & © 2001 Avatar Press, Inc. All characters as depicted in these stories are over the age of eighteen. The stories, characters, & institutions mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional.


NEW YORK: HOME OF BROKEN HEARTS, SHATTERED DREAMS AND FALLEN ANGELS.
HER NAME IS AVENGELYNE, AND THOUGH SHE WAS ONCE A PERFECT, RADIANT BEING WITH POWER BEYOND IMAGINING...
..SHE IS NOW A MORTAL WOMAN, ALBEIT ONE WITH EXTRAORDINARY PHYSICAL STRENGTH...
..AND A CONFIDENCE FORGED BY EONS OF BATTLE.
OKAY, BOYS... THIS IS OBVIOUSLY NOT A ROUTINE MUGGING
YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWING ME FOR TEN BLOCKS, AND NOW THAT I'VE LURED YOU INTO THIS BLIND ALLEY...
...YOU'VE GOT SOME EXPLAINING TO DO.

SHRIIIP!
THAT WAS A MISTAKE, "BUB"
I REALLY LIKED THIS BLOUSE
AND THIS SKIRT
ONE OF YOU GUYS HAD BETTER START TALKING...
SHRIP!
BEFORE I GET ANGRY.
SWIK!
CRACK!
AHN!

THE PRODUCT OF A UNION BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, ANA ISHIKAWA HAS SOUGHT TO EMBRACE BOTH CULTURES BUT HAS NEVER BEEN FULLY ACCEPTED BY EITHER.
AN OUTCAST AND A RENEGADE, SHE IS A WOMAN WHO -- WEARING THE FACE OF A GEISHA AND WIELDING THE WEAPONS OF A SAMURAI -- HAS BECOME THE WARRIOR KNOWN AS SHI.
A WOMAN WHOSE LIFE IS OFTEN FILLED WITH CONFLICT...
...AND WHOSE SLEEP IS OFTEN PLAGUED WITH TROUBLING DREAMS.
ANA ISHIKAWA.
WHO WHO'S THERE? I CAN'T SEE YOU
YOU MUST FIND THE CHIJYOU NI ORITA TENSHI -- THE FALLEN ANGEL -- AND FREE HER FROM BONDAGE
FALLEN ANGEL? I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHO ARE YOU?
I AM... A FRIEND.
ANA. REPAY THE DEBT INCURRED BY YOUR ANCESTOR. RESCUE THE ONE KNOWN AS AVENGELYNE.
SHE IS IN GRAVE DANGER AND REQUIRES YOUR HELP
BUT HOW WILL I--
LOOK WITHIN YOUR HEART FOR STRENGTH AND COURAGE
LOOK WITHIN YOUR WEAPON FOR BALANCE AND GUIDANCE.

WAIT PLEASE...
DON'T GO!
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT ALL ABOUT? WHO WAS THAT OLD WOMAN? SHE SEEMED SO FAMILIAR, AS IF I'VE KNOWN HER FOR YEARS.
AN WHAT WAS IT SHE WAS TRYING TO TELL ME? SOMETHING ABOUT A FALLEN ANGEL -- "AVENGELYNE" SHE CALLED HER -- BEING IN DANGER AND NEEDING MY HELP
BUT EVEN IF THAT WAS MORE THAN JUST A STRANGE DREAM, HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FIND HER?
THE OLD WOMAN MENTIONED MY WEAPON.
THE NAGINATA.
水之卷
必勝
地之卷
IT HAS BEEN HANDED DOWN THROUGH MY FAMILY FOR MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED YEARS, ORIGINALLY BELONGING TO MY ANCESTOR, YURI ISHIKAWA, IN THE 17TH CENTURY.

* AVENGELYNE/SHI #1/2.

COULD YURI BE THE ONE WHO BECAME *INDEBTED* TO THIS "AVENGELYNE"? REGARDLESS, THE QUESTION REMAINS: HOW DO I FIND HER?
I MUST RECALL THE OLD WOMAN'S *EXACT* WORDS. SHE SAID TO LOOK WITHIN MY HEART FOR STRENGTH AND COURAGE, AND TO LOOK WITH IN MY WEAPON..
FOR *BALANCE*...
..AND *GUIDANCE*.

OHHHH MY HEAD.
WH- WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
REVENGE IS GOING ON HERE, ANGEL
WHAT? WHO'S THERE?
I AM KUDARU GESSHIN, DESCENDANT OF SENZO GESSHIN...
...THE MAN YOU AND YOUR ACCOMPLICE MURDERED THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THREE YEARS AGO
AH, YES I REMEMBER

KUDARU, YOUR ANCESTOR WAS A BLOODTHIRSTY FOOL WHO ALLOWED THE DEMON LORD AKUMA TO POSSESS HIM SO THAT HE COULD MORE EFFECTIVELY SLAUGHTER JAPANESE CHRISTIANS..
.AND CONSIDERING THE EVIL I SENSE EMANATING FROM YOU, I'D HAVE TO SAY THAT STUPIDITY RUNS IN YOUR FAMILY
AKUMA IS NOTHING MORE THAN A PARASITE WHO WANTS TO USE YOU AS A HOST.

OH, BUT YOU'RE WRONG. AS AN ALL-POWERFUL ANGEL YOU WERE WELL BEYOND AKUMA'S REACH, AVENGELYNE, BUT NOW THAT YOU ARE A FRAGILE, FALLIBLE MORTAL.

...IT IS YOUR BODY HE WOULD POSSESS!
NOOOO!
KRREEEESH!

RELEASE THE ANGEL NOW
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND, WOMAN?
KILL HER!
NO...
SHE'S MINE.
AVENGELYNE?

KUDARU, I RECOGNIZE THE SCENT OF THIS WOMAN'S BLOOD.
SHE IS A DIRECT DESCENDANT OF THE GIRL WHO KILLED YOUR ANCESTOR AND SENT ME BACK TO THE NETHER REALMS MORE THAN THREE CENTURIES AGO
THIS IS INDEED FORTUITOUS, AND QUITE IRONIC THAT SHE IS ABOUT TO DIE AT THE HANDS OF THE ANGEL WHO ONCE SAVED THE LIFE OF HER KIN.
HHHYYAAAAA!

HNNNG!
KRAK!
AVENGELYNE! SNAP OUT OF IT! THEY'RE CONTROLLING YOUR MIND!
OH, I CONTROL FAR MORE THAN HER MIND, BITCH
I HAVE THE ABILITY TO RESHAPE HER VERY FLESH, TRANSFORMING YOUR ANGEL OF MERCY INTO A TENSHI NO SHI...

...AN ANGEL OF DEATH!
DEAR LORD

YOUR LORD, WOMAN...
SHHLKK!
AAAIIEEE!
...CANNOT SAVE YOU NOW.
FIGHT HIM, AVENGELYNE YOU'RE STRONGER THAN THIS DEMON
OH, BUT YOU'RE WRONG.
DEAD WRONG.

AVENGELYNE.
RRR...
.I HAVE FAITH IN YOU
RRRRR...
RRRRAAAGHH!
DAMN YOU, ANGEL. YOU'RE MINE!
NO, AKUMA. I'VE SUFFERED YOUR PRESENCE. LONG ENOUGH.
AND NOW.
I CAST YOU OUT!

YOU DID IT, AVENGELYNE! IT'S OVER!
NO. THIS DOESN'T END
UNTIL BOTH OF YOU DIE.
RETURN TO ME, AKUMA. LET MINE BE THE HAND THAT AVENGES MY ANCESTOR.
YES, FAITHFUL KUDARU.
WITH A FEW CHANGES...

...YOUR BODY WILL SUFFICE.
STAY BACK, GIRL. YOU'RE INJURED. YOU CAN'T--
I CAN HANDLE THE FOUR GOONS IF YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF AKUMA.
MY PLEASURE.
SHNNK!
HNNGG!
KRAAK!

HRRRGG!
IT HURTS, DOESN'T IT AKUMA?
SWWKKK!

KLANG!
I'VE LEARNED THE *HARD* WAY THAT THE BIGGEST DRAWBACK TO BEING IN A HUMAN BODY...
YANK!
...IS DEALING WITH ITS *VULNERABILITY.*
KRUNCH!
HHUNNFF!
UHN!
KLUD!

WHEN YURI STRUCK YOU DOWN ALL THOSE YEARS AGO IN JAPAN, HER WEAPON MERELY KILLED YOUR HUMAN HOST AND ALLOWED YOU TO RETURN TO THE NETHER REALMS.
YOU... B-BITCH.
BUT THIS TIME IT IS *MY* RIGHTEOUS BLADE THAT PIERCES YOUR BLACK HEART...
THUNK!
EEEYAAAGHH!
...RIDDING US OF YOUR EVIL *FOREVER.*
WHUMP!
I OWE YOU MY *LIFE,* MISS...?
ISHIKAWA. ANA ISHIKAWA. I BELIEVE YOU SAVED THE LIFE OF MY ANCESTOR.
YES, BUT HOW DID YOU--

I THOUGHT I KNEW THIS WEAPON AS WELL AS I KNOW MYSELF, BUT IT SEEMS THAT SOMEONE HAD HIDDEN SOMETHING WITHIN IT LONG AGO.
I PRAYED UPON IT AND WAS DRAWN HERE... TO YOU.
YURI'S CROSS. I BLESSED IT SO THAT SHE COULD USE IT TO CALL ON ME IN AN HOUR OF NEED, BUT IT TURNS OUT THAT I NEEDED HER...
...OR RATHER HER DESCENDANT.
THANK YOU, ANA. YOU ARE AS BRAVE AND NOBLE AS YOUR ANCESTOR.
COME ON NOW. WE'D BETTER FIND A HOSPITAL AND GET THOSE WOUNDS TREATED.
AS IT IS, THEY'RE GOING TO LEAVE SOME NASTY SCARS.
SCARS? YES...
...I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.
END.